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Smart's lawyers file to bar secret tape

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A motion to suppress evidence against a 23-year old Derry widow accused of helping plan the death of her husband will be heard Jan. 17 at the Rockingham Superior Court in Exeter.

Superior Court Judge Douglas Gray, who made the decision in August to keep Pamela Smart in jail without bail, will hear the attorneys' plea to suppress evidence contained in what prosecutors call an incriminating tape-recorded conversation between the defendant and her 16

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Smart's lawyers hope to bar secret tape from murder trial

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A 23-year-old co-worker, Cecelia Pierce, according to prosecutors the secretly taped conversation was made willingly by Pierce when she went to Smart's office at School Administrative Unit 21, where she worked as media director of the Hampton school district.

The state's position is going to be that Cecelia Pierce's cooperation was voluntary and the court should deny the motion," said Assistant Attorney General Anne Nicolosi.

Both Nicolosi and Assistant Attorney General Cynthia White were originally assigned to prosecute the case on behalf of the state, but Assistant Attorney General Paul Maggiotti has been assigned to take White's place because of her early-year court schedule, said Nicolosi.

Smart's attorneys, Paul Twomey and Mark Sisti of Chichester, have filed four other motions, raising questions against the state's evidence. A date to hear those motions has yet to be scheduled, according to a clerk at the court.